

O MAR 14 2002
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
S/N 09/884,862

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

S/B

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Docket: 279.024US6

Applicant: Robert G. Hauser et al.

Serial No.: 09/884,862

Filed: June 19, 2001

Title: **IMPLANTABLE INTRAVENOUS CARDIAC STIMULATION SYSTEM
WITH PULSE GENERATOR HOUSING SERVING AS OPTIONAL
ADDITIONAL ELECTRODE**

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to taking up the above-identified patent application for review, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

B

32. An apparatus, comprising:
first and second electrodes for disposition near the heart;
an implantable pulse generator including pulse generator circuitry for delivering a defibrillation shock pulse to the heart;
a conductive pulse generator housing enclosing the pulse generator circuitry;
a programmable switch for connecting the first and second electrodes and the conductive housing to the pulse generator circuitry, wherein the switch is configurable so that a shock pulse is either discharged between the first electrode and the second electrode or discharged between the first electrode and the second electrode connected in common with the conductive housing.

33. The apparatus of claim 32 wherein the second electrode is a subcutaneous electrode.